

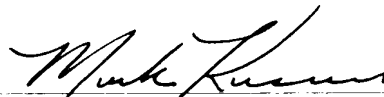
The amendments to the claims were made to overcome improper multiple dependency, and to define more clearly the patentable invention.

The enclosed fees are calculated based upon the claims as amended in the Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

9 Nov 2001



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